BIAS CRIME REPORT 1988

Chicago Commission on Human Relations

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CHICÁGO COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS (CCHR) REPORT ON BIAS CRIMES January through December, 1988

The Commission on Human Relations was established as a Department of City government "through which the citizens of Chicago may be kept informed of developments in human relations..." The Commission's responsibilities include cooperating with city officials in securing the furnishing of equal services to all residents, assuring fair and equal treatment to all citizens, and initiating its own investigations of tensions, practices of discrimination and acts of prejudice against any person or group because of race, sex, religion or ethnic origin. In addition, the Commission may hold public hearings, carry on research, obtain factual data and issue publications.

This is the third annual publication of the Commission's report on, and analysis of, bias crime incidents in Chicago. The 1988 statistics reported here represent racial or bias incidents CCHR investigated under its category of "law and justice" cases. These cases generally involve criminal acts of harassment, property damage, assault and the like, whenever bias has been identified as being involved. This report does not include cases involving other kinds of discrimination (which CCHR also investigates), such as private employment, use of public facilities, and so forth. Most, but not all, of our "law and justice" cases were originally brought by complainants to the Chicago Police Department.

We received reports of a total of 255 bias incidents in 1988 equal to 255 incidents in 1987.

We categorize each incident according to its triggering situation and its severity. For an explanation of this code, see the separate sheet titled "Racial Ethnic Incidents - January 1988." The statistical figures for the year are keyed to these coded categories.

This marrative is intended to clarify the numerical data which follow. Some need explanation so as not to be misinterpreted.

SUMMARY

Twenty-six neighborhoods had an increase of 90 reported incidents in 1988, while twenty-nine had a decrease of 88 and seven had the same number in 1988 as 1987 (see separate list for specific neighborhoods).

NORTH AND NORTH WEST SIDE INCREASES

Twelve white majority neighborhoods on the city's North Lakefront and North West Side had unexpected increases in racial crimes following years of relatively low bias crime incidence. Irving Park had the highest number, 13 in 1988 compared to 9 in 1987 and zero in 1986, while Edison Park had no incidents in 1987 but 8 in 1988. The Near North area from Grand to North Avenue had 9 incidents in 1988, a 66% increase. Uptown's 11 bias crimes represented a 55% increase and Rogers Park experienced double their four 1987 incidents in 1988.

One Rogers Park incident in particular attracted a great deal of concern; a black man was harassed in a Dévon Avenue tavern and ultimately shot and critically injured by one of the patrons, who as yet is unidentified. This appalling incident rallied the church and civic leaders in support of the victim through petitions, community meetings and attendance at court hearings.

Overall, the past year a total of 87 incidents took place in these highlighted North and North West Side communities compared with 42 in 1987, an increase of more than 50%. The North Lakefront incidents involved an extremely heterogeneous group of victims: Blacks were victims in 38 cases: Whites in 17; Jews in 12; Asians in 7: Hispanics in 4 and persons of middle-eastern descent in 3 incidents--all of the racial, religious and ethnic populations we count.

The number of white victims identified, for the most part, suffered negative actions towards them by other whites. White-on-white bias incidents most often follow a visit by a minority person to a white's home either as a friend, a business associate or a potential home buyer.

Possible explanations for the increase in these North West Side incidents may be heightened visibility of minority members as they pass through the area of their way to suburban jobs, residential integration, and the continuing activity of Neo-Nazi groups.

SOUTH WEST SIDE

For three years Chicago Lawn has had the highest number of bias crime with 31 in 1988, an increase over 30 in 1987 and 1986, Two of these situations were threats against religious institutions — a Catholic and Methodist church—and their pastors.

These phone and mail threats were directed at leaders of the Religious Coalition to End Racial Violence. This group came together in support of black and Hispanics families who lost their home in an arson fire in Gage Park during September. The Coalition also sponsored an inter-denomination prayer service and march in Marquette Park to counter the Klu Klux Klan rally held the same day in late August, preaching the value of diversity in their community.

Because "triggering situation". A (a move-in by a minority family or continuing minority homeowner harassment) may reflect an on-going crisis and can have dire community consequences, it should be high-lighted in this report.

There were 69 racial incidents triggered by a "move-in" during 1988. Chicago Lawn had the highest number, 12 related to minority renters or owners. All but one, an Asian, were Black new residents. This year there was an increase of "move-in" incidents—against other than Black persons, though Blacks were victims in 43 cases, a majority. Hispanics experienced 4 "move-in" incidents: Asians, 8; whites, 18; and 5 involved whites and other race victims.

Regarding the gain in bias actions against Asians, several were exacerbated by the housing shortage within Chinatown as families sought to purchase homes beyond its' borders. In one incident, a white Armour Square home seller received threats from his neighbors when they observed only Chinese families being shown his house by realtors. However, the highest number of Asian-related incidents took place in Uptown, which is extremely diverse racially and is ordinarily considered to be a welcoming community to Asians as well as other minorities.

Three neighborhoods - north, west and southwest - were second (after Chicago Lawn) in the number of "move-in" situations. Uptown, and Austin each had 6. Ashburn had five which shows a decrease for Ashburn which had 10 minority "move-in" cases in 1987, and may be the result of their aggressive actions against realtors suspected of panic peddling and racial steering in home sales.

The most frequent triggering situation we usually handle is "B - unwelcome neighborhood." There were 64 such complaints in 1988 compared to 89 in 1987. This is a category where the severity of the incident can range from verbal harassment to severe beatings. Chicago Lawn leads with 7, followed by Irving Park and Ashburn which had 5 each. The overall reduction in this triggering situation is a welcome 22% as compared to last year.

In the other coded categories of triggering situations there were relatively few incidents; C-unwelcome public facility" had a total of 16; "D-antagonistic encounter with an authority figure" 1: "E-conflict towards a business or institution," 39; "F-miscellaneous situation, 12; and "G - unknown triggering situation", 54.

When we analyze the incidents in all categories on the basis of their severity (code #4 above), of 181 serious incidents Blacks are shown to be victims in over half of the cases we reported, 50.8% to be exact. Whites make up 28.7% while the other nationality and religious groups we delineate suffer approximately 20% of the other serious incidents were record; Jewish, 8.8%; Hispanic, 4%; 6.9% of these statistics included Asians and Middle Easterns.

DOWNTOWN INCIDENTS

Because the number of incidents that took place in the Loop area jumped from none in 1987 to fifteen in 1988, each case for this year was reviewed again to determine what form these situations took and how they could be prevented.

Of the 15 examples, representing eight complainants, 11 were phone threats, 6 of which were anti-Jewish in nature. The Anti-Defamation League received two of these threats, while oddly, a non-Jewish print shop owner received four over a month's time.

When threats, whether phoned or mailed take place on different dates we count each as a separate incident.

The remaining 4 incidents were direct attacks on individuals while walking or using CTA facilities in the Loop and each included racial epithets. All of the victims were White. A young woman was held hostage and physically threatened by two men as they rode through downtown on an Archer Avenue bus. She was eventually set free, but the perpetrators were never found.

The second CTA incident took place on the Dearborn Subway platform at Jackson when strangers threatened to push a gentleman onto the train tracks while calling him a "commie Jew."

The most serious Loop racial offenses involved two men being stabbed in separate incidents; one at a lakefront parking to just north of Randolph Street, and the other on the street at Jackson and LaSalle. Both men survived their wounds but none of the attackers were found.

ANTI-SEMITIC INCIDENTS

1988 showed a reduction incidents aimed at Jewish citizens and institutions from 37 in 1987 to 26 in our most recent survey. In reviewing these figures, the Commission noted there was less Anti-Semitic criminal activity on the date of "Kristallnact" than there had been in 1987. The Chicago Police Department monitored past incident locations in West Ridge, Lincoln Square and Rogers Park, and community residents and business owners in these locales stayed alert to potential Nazi threats. The Anti-Defamation League, as noted previously, experienced several of the worst anti-Jewish threats, and report an overall increase in bias crimes directed at Jews in 1988 in the metropolitan area.

SEXUAL ORIENTATION BIAS INCIDENTS

No complaints based on sexual orientation were reported to the Commission in 1988, though the anti-violence project at Horizon Community Services reported 162 bias crimes related to sexual orientation last year. Anti-gay violence is no doubt underreported due to the lack of civil rights protection for sexual orientation in either the state or the city until February of 1989. Victims of anti-gay violence may feel that, without such civil protections, reporting such crimes exposes them to even more potential damage with no possibility of redress. As the public becomes more aware of the Commission's role in implementing the recent Human Rights Ordinance, complainants to the Commission will likely increase.

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS ANTI-DISCRIMINATION WORK

In addition to law and justice cases the Chicago Commission on Human Relations handles complaints regarding discrimination in employment, education, health, housing and public accommodation. Beginning February 17, 1989, will add several "protected class" categories to its responsibilites as a result of the December 21, 1988 City Council adoption of the Chicago Human Rights Ordinance. Chapter 198.7B and 199 of the Municipal Code. The ordinance states it is illegal to discriminate against persons in the City of Chicago based on disability, marital status, sexual orientation, parental status, lawful source ofincome and military discharge status in addition to the existing coverage of race, religion, sex, ethnic origin and age.

With the exception of complaints related to housing discrimination, which will be handed by the city's Department of Housing, all other complaints will be investigated and resolved by Commission staff members. If an ordinace violation cannot by the resolved by conciliation the complaint will be referred by the Commission to the Corporation Counsel for legal action.

Complaints by or concerning Chicago residents can be brought to the Commission on Human Relations, either by mail or in person, at 500 N. Peshtigo Court, 6-A, Chicago, IL, 60611, or by telephone at 744-4111.

To bring complaints of discrimination based on citizenship or immigration status, call 744-4114. A separate report is available from the Chicago Commission on Human Relations on discrimination resulting from the Immigration and Control Act of 1986.

This Bias Crime Report for 1988 was prepared by Kelly Sander, Human Relations Officer II.

B. Herbert Martin, Sr., Director Judy Stevens, Deputy Director Chicago, Commission on Human Relations

KS/yqg #32 BIAS88R Changes in the number of racial incidents by neighborhood.

INCREASED reported incidents by year

	22	1988		1987	1986
Roger Park Uptown Lakeview Near North Edison Park Norwood Park North Park Albany Park Portage Park Irving Park Dunning Belmont Cragin		1988 8 11 10 9 8 3 2 6 5 13 5	8	1987 4 5 7 3 0 0 1 0 4 9 4 5	1986 2 15 3 5 1 2 7 6 2 0 3
Belmont Cragin Westtown		5		2	5
North Lawndale Loop		5 15		0	0 4
Near Southside South Shore		4 2		0	1 O
Chatham Avalon Park		1 1		0	0
Burnside Roseland		1 3		0	0 2
South Deering Garfield Ridge		4 2		2	5
Gage Park Chicago Lawn Mt. Greenwood		9 31 8		7 30 4	12 30 4
O'Hare		1		0	0

DECREASED report number of incidents

	1988		1987	1986
West Ridge	8		18	2
Lincoln Square	2		11	16
Lincoln Park	0		2	5
Avondale	1		3	2
Logan Square	0		1	3
Humboldt	0		1	1
Austin	8		15	11
Near West	1		2	1
South Lawndale	0	*	10	2
Armour Square	2		7	1.
Douglas	0		1	0
Fuller Park	0		1	()
Hyde Park	0		4	0
Woodlawn	0		1	1
South Chicago	0		1	3
Pullman	0		1	1
Hegewisch	O		1	0
Archer Heights	1		2	1
Bridgeport	4		12	3
New City	9		11	2
Clearing	1		3	2
West Lawn	2		õ	3
West Englewood	1		4	1
Englewood	1		2	()
Ashburn	14		19	8
Auburn Gresham	0		1	2
Beverly	7		9	9
Washington Heights	0		1	2
Edgewater	2		3	2

Same number of incidents in 1988 as in 1987

Montclare	4	Brighton Park 1	1
Kenwood	1	Morgan Park 6	
Garfield Ridge	1	North Center (
Jefferson Park	7	Notett outfor	,

BIAS88R #32 2/10/89 'Revised'

RACIAL/ETHNIC INCIDENTS

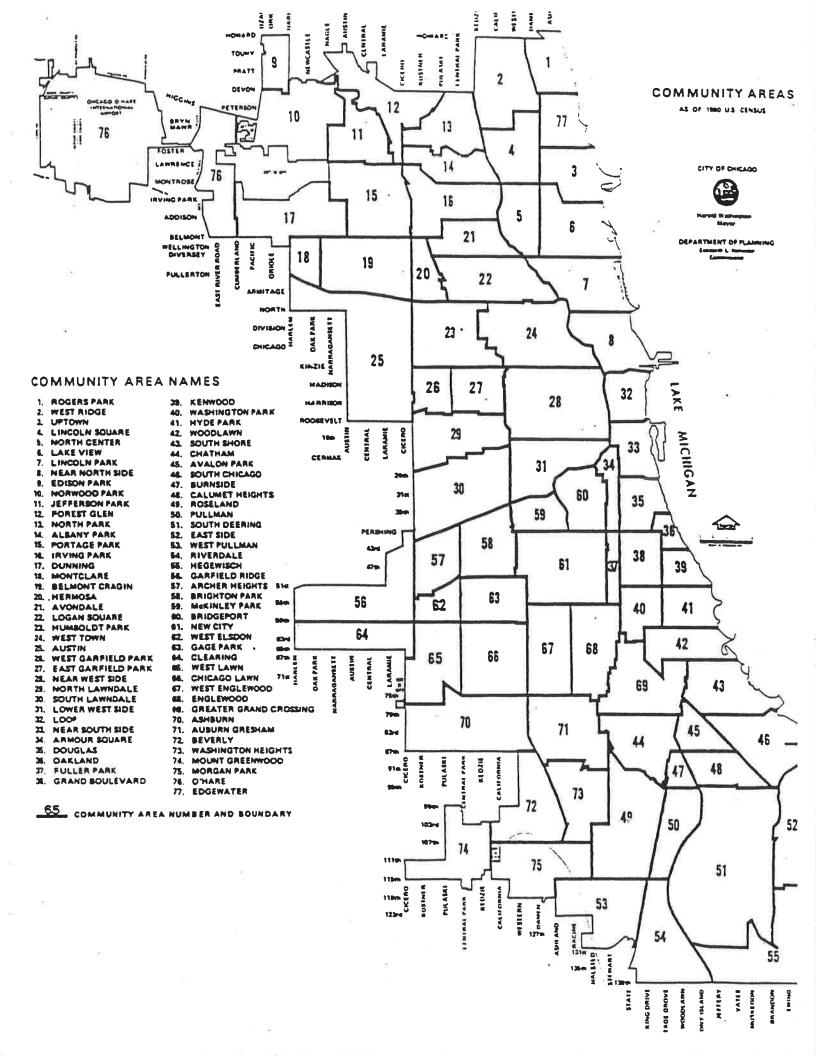
January, 1987

Categories: Triggering Situations

- A. Move-in, potential move-in; minority homeowner harassment
- B. Unwelcome neighborhood (to someone driving, walking through, standing at bus stop) street harassment
- C. Unwelcome public facility (discouraging someone's use of it; hostilities in school, hospital, park, etc.)
- D. Antagonistic encounter with authority figure/complaint re: services
- E. Conflict regarding, or antagonism toward, business or institution (which represents "unwelcome" group, desecration of synagogue, harassment of store, etc.)
- F. Miscellaneous triggering situation (conflict at a demonstration, e.g.)
- G. Unknown triggering situation (apparently unprovoked harassment, threats, etc. setting unclear or irrelevant)

Categories: Incidents (Ascending Order of Seriousness)

- 1. Harassment (spontaneous, spur of the moment, impulse)
- Planned Harassment (phone calls, unwanted deliveries, etc.)
- 3. Minor Property Damage (\$200 or less)
- 4. Major Property Damage
- 5. Individual Physical Threats
- 6. Group Physical Threats (from a gang or hate group, cross burning, for example, etc.)
- 7. Physical Attack
- 8. Life Threatening Physical Attack (including any discharge of gun)
- 9. Group Clash
- 10. Repeated Clashes (out of control/riot situation)



CHICAGO COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS STATISTICS ON RACIAL INCIDENTS JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER, 1988 TOTAL 255

MAP #	NEIGHBORHOOD	SITUATION	# OF INCIDENTS	VICTIM'S ETHNIC CRIGINS
1.	ROGERS PARK 8	B-1 C-6 C-7 C-8 E-3 E-4 F-4 G-7	1 1 1 1 1 1 1	HBHBJJJJW
2.	WEST RIDGE 8	B-5 B-7 E-3 E-4 G-3 G-3	1 1 2 2 1	រ មាន ប ប ប ប
3	UPTOWN 11	A-1 A-3 A-5 A-7 A-8 A-9 B-7 B-8 G-5 G-7	1 1 1 1 1 2 1 1 1	AAAABABBWJ
4.	LINCOLN SQ. 2	E-5 G-5	1	J J
5.	NORTH CENTER - 0 I	NCIDENTS		
6.	LAKEVIEW 10	A-4 B-5 B-7 E-2 E-3 E-5 G-3 G-4	1 1 2 1 2 1 CATH	B B J B J OLIC CONVENT J

29	0	×		140	
7.	LINCOLN PARK - O I	NCIDENTS			
8.	NEAR NORTH 9	C-8 E-2 F-8 G-2 G-7 G-7 G-7	1 1 1 1 2 1		B/W B/H W B ME B W
9.	EDISON PARK 8	A-2 A-3 A-6 B-1 G-5	2 2 2 1		B B B W
10.	NORWOOD PARK 3	E-2 E-3 G-3	1 1 1	WHITE POWER LE ANTI-CATHOLIC	
11.	JEFFERSON PARK 3	B-5 ,B-7 G-3	1 1 1		W B W
12.	FOREST GLEN -	0 INCIDENTS			
13.	NORTH PARK 2	E-3 G-7	1		J J
14.	ALBANY PARK 6	A-2 A-3 B-7 F-2 F-7 G-8	1 1 1 1 1	¥	B W B J W ME
15.	PORTAGE PARK 5	B-7 F-7 G-5 G-5 G-7	1 1 1 1		B W A B W

16.	IRVING PARK	A-1 A-5 B-3 B-6 B-7 B-7 E-3 E-3 G-6	1 1 2 1 1 2 3 1		B B/W STORE B B W CHURCH A
17.		A-5 B-5 B-7 E-7	1 1 2 1		B/W B B
18.		A-3 A-3 A-6	2 1 1		В Н В
19.		A-3 A-3 B-6 G-5 G-7	1 1 1 3		W B B W U
20.	HERMOSA - 0 INCIDEN	rs			
21.	AVONDALE - 0 INCIDE	NTS			
22.	LOGAN SQUARE - 0 IN	CIDENTS			
23.	HUMBOLDT PARK 1	B-7	1		В
24.	WESTTOWN 5	A-5 B-7 E-5 G-2 G-7	1 1 1 1	CLEMENTINE	H B ACADEMY B H
25.	AUSTIN 8	A-3 A-4 A-7 B-5 B-7	4 1 1 1		B W W U

28	W. GARFIELD - C	INCIDENTS		
2	7. E. GARFIELD - C	INCIDENTS		e w
28	NEAR WESTSIDE -	· 0 INCIDENTS	Σ	
29	N. LAWNDALE 5	A-2 G-6 G-4 G-6	2 1 1 1	W B H B
30	S. LAWNDALE - 0	INCIDENTS		
31	LOWER WEST SIDE	- 0 INCIDENTS		
32	2. LOOP 15	B-5 E-2 E-5 E-5 F-5 G-3 G-7 G-8	1 1 3 1 1 3 1 1 2	W J W W J J J W W W
33	NEAR SOUTHSIDE (CHINATOWN) 4	A-5 E-5 F-7 G-7	1 1 1	A W B W
34	ARMOUR SQUARE 2	A-5 B-7	1 1	А/В В
35	. DOUGLAS - 0 INC	IDENTS		
36	. OAKLAND - 0 INC	IDENTS		
				*

FULLER PARK - 0 INCIDENTS

GRAND BOULEVARD - 0 INCIDENTS

37.

38.

39.	KENWOOD 1	E-2	1	В
40.	WASHINGTON PARK - C	INCIDENTS		
41.	HYDE PARK - 0 INCID	ENTS		
42.	WOODLAWN - 0 INCIDE	ENTS		
43.	S. SHORE 2	E-7 G-7	1	A B
44.	CHATHAM 1	A-5	1	W
45.	AVALON PARK 1	A-3	1	Ţ
46.	s. CHICAGO - 0 INCI	DENTS		
47.	BURNSIDE 1	G-4	1	В
48.	CALUMET HTS - 0 INC	IDENTS		
49.	ROSELAND 3	E-7 G-5	2	F.Y
50.	PULLMAN - 0 INCIDEN	TS		
51.	S. DEERING 4	A-3 A-4 B-7 D-5	1 1 1	s a a a
52.	E. SIDE - 0 INCIDEN	TS		
53.	W. PULLMAN - O INCI	DENTS		
54.	RIVERDALE - 0 INCID	ENTS		
55.	HEGEWISCH - 0 INCID	ENTS		
56	GARFIELD RIDGE 2	B-8 C-7	1 1	B B

57.	ARCHER HEIGHTS	E-4	1	B/W
58.	BRIGHTON PARK 1	B-5	1	ЖE
59.	MCKINLEY PARK - 0	INCIDENTS		
60.	BRIDGEPORT 4	B-4 B-5 B-6 C-7	1 1 1	B B A
61.	NEW CITY 9	A-3 A-7 A-7 B-4 B-5 B-5 B-7 C-7	1 1 1 1 1 1 2	W W W B B B B
62.	w. ELSDON - 0 INCII	ENTS		
63.	GAGE PARK 9 '	A-1 A-3 A-4 B-5 B-6 E-2 E-5 G-7	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 CATHOLIC PRIE 1 METHODIST CHUR 1	
64.	CLEARING 1	F-5	1	H
65	W. LAWN 2	B-3 B-7	1 1	B B

66.	CHICAGO LAWN 31	A-2 A-3 A-4 A-4 A-5 A-7 B-4 B-5 B-6 B-7 C-1 E-5 F-1 F-7 G-2 G-3 G-7 G-8	2 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	CATHOLIC CHUI	BBBBWWHEHBBWWB/W
67.	WEST ENGLEWOOD	A -7	1		W
68.	ENGLEWOOD 1	B-7	1		M
69.	GREATER GRAND CROSS	ING - 0 INCIDENTS	9		
70.	ASHBURN 13	A-3 A-4 A-5 A-5 B-4 B-6 B-7 E-5 G-1 G-7	1 2 1 1 2 2 1 1		8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8

71. AUBURN GRESHAM - 0 INCIDENTS

72.	BEVERLY 7	A-3 A-5 B-7 C-7 G-4	2 sec 1 1 2 1	B B W W B
73.	WASHINGTON HTS - 0	INCIDENTS		
74.	MT. GREENWOOD 8	A-3 B-3 B-5 B-7 C-5 C-7	1 1 2 1 2	B B B B B B B
75.	MORGAN PARK 6	B-4 B-6 C-4 C-4	1 2 2 1	B B B W
76.	O'HARE	E-3	1	CATHOLIC CHURCH
77.	EDGEWATER 2	A-5 G-7	1 1	В Н

THERE WERE 30 CHICAGO NEIGHBORHOODS WHERE NO BIAS CRIMES WERE REPORTED IN 1988. MOST WERE HOMOGENEOUS IN THEIR POPULATION MAKE-UP SUCH AS FOREST GLEF ON THE NORTH WEST SIDE, GRAND BOULEVARD ON THE SOUTH AND EAST GARFIELD OF THE WEST. A FEW LIKE LINCOLN PARK AND LOGAN SQUARE ARE INTEGRATED.

RACIAL KEY

A ASIAN

B BLACK

G GYPSY

H HISPANIC

J JEWISH

ME MIDDLE EASTERN

SO SEXUAL ORIENTATION

W WHITE

D#22A

KSRPT *REVISED 2/10/89